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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: R. Nagamine, et al.

Serial No.: 10/026,532

Group Art Unit: 2133

Filed: December 27, 2001

Examiner: Cynthia H. Britt

For: TEST CIRCUIT FOR LOGICAL INTEGRATED CIRCUIT AND METHOD FOR
TESTING SAME

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION OF OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

Clarification is requested of the Office Action mailed August 25, 2004.

Claims 1-7 are pending in this application. The Office Action Summary is marked to indicate that claims 1-7 are rejected and that claims 2 and 4 are objected to. On page 6, claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112. On page 11, claims 1, 2, and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e). The following discussion on page 11 is directed to claims 1 and 2 and on page 12 is directed to claims 4 and 5. There is no mention in the Office Action of any relationship between prior art and claims 3, 6, or 7.

It is thus unclear whether objection is made to claims 2 and 4, with the implication that presenting those claims in independent form while overcoming the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112 would make those claims allowable. The status of claims 3, 6, and 7 is also unclear. Further, it is unclear whether claim 5 is rejected or objected to.

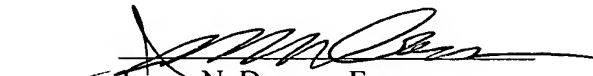
Accordingly, clarification of the Office Action is respectfully requested so that a meaningful response can be prepared and filed.

Serial No. 10/026,532
Docket No. HIR.046

It is also requested that the period for response be restarted with the mailing of the next paper from the Patent and Trademark Office.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: October 1, 2008


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